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TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that WE, STEVEN M. PODOS, THOMAS W. MITTAG and BERNARD BECKER, citizens of U.S.A., U.S.A. and U.S.A. , residing in Tenafly, Pleasantville and University City , County of Bergen, Westchester and St. Louis , State of New Jersey, New York and Missouri whose post office addresses are 2 Knoll Road, Tenafly, New Jersey 07670, 167 Woodland Avenue, Pleasantville, New York 10570 and 8655 West Kingsbury, St. Louis, Missouri 63124 (respectively,) have invented an improvement in

NOVEL PROSTAGLANDINS FOR GLAUCOMA THERAPY

of which the following is a

SPECIFICATION

INTRODUCTION

The present invention relates to the use of 8-iso prostaglandin E₂ ("8-iso PGE₂"), 8-iso prostaglandin E₁, and 8 iso-PGE derivatives in the treatment of glaucoma. It is based, at least in part, on the discovery that 8-iso prostaglandin E₂ effectively decreased intraocular pressure by a trabecular meshwork outflow mechanism.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

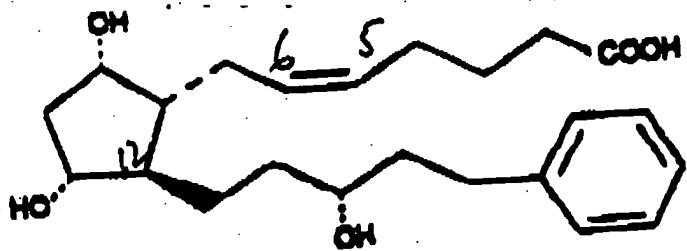
Glaucoma is a major eye disease which can cause progressive loss of vision leading to blindness. The majority of human glaucomas are associated with increased intraocular pressure ("IOP") resulting from an imbalance in the rate of secretion of aqueous humor by the ciliary epithelium into the anterior and posterior chambers of the eye and the rate of aqueous humor outflow from these chambers, primarily via the canal of Schlemm. High IOP is considered the major risk factor for glaucomatous visual impairment resulting from the death of retinal ganglion cells, loss of the nerve fiber layer in the retina, and destruction of the axons of the optic nerve. Current treatments are directed toward reducing intraocular pressure.

Glaucoma is typically classified, on the basis of its etiology, as primary or secondary. Primary glaucoma in adults, a disorder in which the underlying cause is poorly understood, is associated with increased IOP due to an obstruction of aqueous humor outflow . The obstruction may be caused by a blockage located at the angle formed between the iris and the lateral cornea, categorized as either open angle or acute or chronic angle closure. The anterior chamber of the eye appears normal in chronic open angle glaucoma, despite impaired drainage of aqueous humor. In contrast, the anterior chamber is shallow and the filtration angle is narrowed in chronic angle-closure glaucoma, wherein the trabecular network at the entrance of the canal of Schlemm may be obstructed by the iris. An acute attack of glaucoma may arise in this context when the pupil dilates, pushing the root of the iris forward to block the angle.

Secondary glaucoma is caused by another disorder which functionally interferes

with the flow of aqueous humor from the posterior to the anterior chamber. Such interference may be caused by inflammation, a tumor, an enlarged cataract, central retinal vein occlusion, trauma, or hemorrhage.

Several classes of drugs acting by different mechanisms are used as topically administered ocular therapy to lower IOP. These include beta adrenergic blockers (e.g., timolol), topical carbonic anhydrase inhibitors (e.g., dorzolamide), and alpha₂-adrenergic receptor agonists (e.g., clonidine derivatives), all of which act primarily by decreasing the formation of aqueous humor within the eye. Pilocarpine and epinephrine are clinical agents that also lower IOP in glaucomatous eyes, but these drugs act principally by decreasing the resistance in the trabecular meshwork outflow channels. A third mechanism for lowering IOP in the primate eye is by increasing the outflow of aqueous humor via the uveoscleral route. Recently, a prostaglandin derivative belonging to the F2 α series of prostanoids, which acts primarily by this uveoscleral mechanism, has been introduced for glaucoma therapy. This drug, called latanoprost, is the isopropyl ester of a compound having the following structure:



Prostaglandins which may be used in the treatment of glaucoma are described in United States Patents Nos. 5,476,872 by Garst et al., 4,599,353 by Bito, 5,262,437 by Chan,

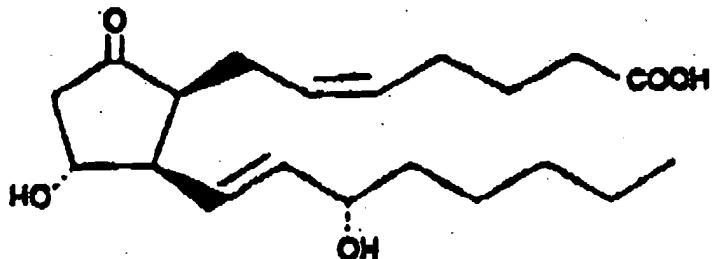
5,462,968 by Woodward, 4,132,847 by Kuhla, 5,173,507 by DeSantis et al., 5,578,618 by Stjernschantz et al., 5,208,256 by Ueno, 5,565,492 by DeSantis et al., 5,151,444 by Ueno et al., and PCT Application No. PCT/US93/10853, International Publication No. WO 94/11002 by Woodward.

The present invention relates to prostaglandins which are structurally different from latanoprost and other prostaglandins used in the treatment of glaucoma, and that belong to the 8-isoPGE series of prostanoids, for example 8-isoPGE₁ and 8-iso PGE₂. In contrast to latanoprost, 8-isoPGE₂ lowers IOP primarily by decreasing the resistance to trabecular outflow of aqueous humor from the eye.

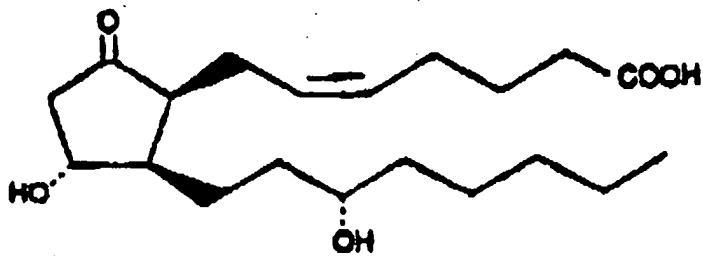
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the use of 8-iso prostaglandin E₂ (prosta-5,13-dien-1-oic acid, 11,15-dihydroxy-9-oxo, (5Z, 8 β , 11 α , 13E,15S), having the following Formula

I:



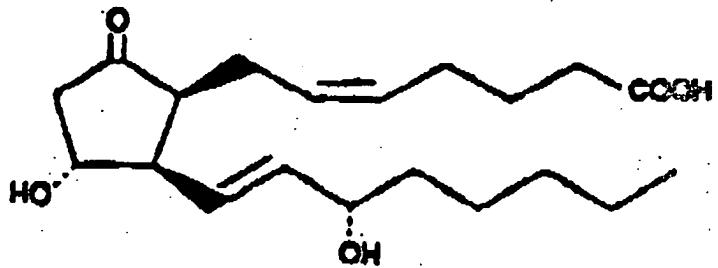
8 iso prostaglandin E₁ having the following Formula II:



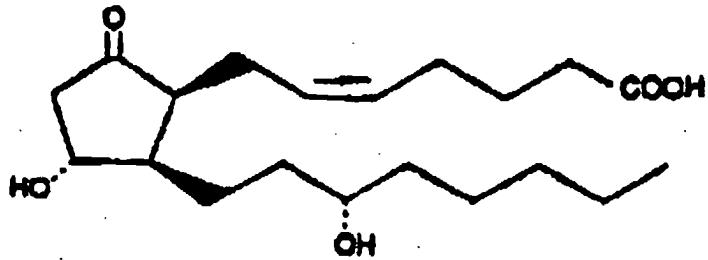
and 8-iso PGE derivatives in the treatment of glaucoma.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to the use of 8-iso prostaglandin E₂ (prosta-5,13-dien-1-oic acid, 11,15-hydroxy-9-oxo, (5Z, 8β, 11α, 13E,15S) ("8-isoPGE₂"), having the following Formula I:



8-iso PGE₁, having the following Formula II:



and derivatives of 8-isoPGE₁ and 8-isoPGE₂ in the treatment of increased IOP and/or glaucoma.

The main structural differences between 8-isoPGE₂ and latanoprost are the following: (i) the side chain substituents on the five-membered rings have the opposite geometric arrangement with respect to the plane of the ring (cis for 8-isoPGE₂ and trans for latanoprost); (ii) the five-

membered ring has a keto function at position 9 in 8-isoPGE₂, whereas there is a hydroxyl group in the same position in latanoprost; and (iii) the side chains beginning with the twelfth carbon have different structures, with latanoprost containing a terminal phenyl ring. 8 iso-PGE derivatives of the invention contain a five-membered ring and two side chains, and retain distinguishing features (i)-(iii) as set forth in the preceding sentence. In preferred embodiments, such derivatives are esters of 8-isoPGE₁ or 8-isoPGE₂. For example, esterified derivatives of 8-isoPGE₂ may be used according to the invention, and may provide improved penetration into the eye.

The mechanism of action by which 8-isoPGE₂ lowers IOP has been found to be different from that of latanoprost in experiments done in primates, in that 8-isoPGE₂ has been found to increase trabecular outflow facility. This is an advantage in that the trabecular mesh-work is the primary locus of the pathology causing increased IOP in primary open angle glaucoma.

Accordingly, the present invention provides for a method for decreasing IOP, and a method for treating glaucoma, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of 8-isoPGE₁, or 8-isoPGE₂, or a derivative thereof. Suitable formulations include for example, and not by way of limitation, a topical solution which is a physiological saline solution, having a pH between about 4.5 and 8 and an appropriate buffer system (e.g., acetate buffers, citrate buffers, phosphate buffers, borate buffers) a neutral pH being preferred. The formulation may further comprise a pharmaceutically acceptable preservative (e.g. benzalkonium chloride, thimoserol, chlorobutanol), stabilizer and/or surfactant (e.g. Tween 80). The formulation may also comprise

a compound which acts as a tonicity adjuster (e.g. sodium metabisulfite, sodium thiosulfate, acetylcysteine, butylated hydroxyanisol, butylated hydroxytoluene). A "therapeutically effective amount" of 8-isoPGE₁ or 8-isoPGE₂, or a derivative thereof refers to an amount of drug which decreases the IOP by at least about 10 percent, preferably at least about 15 percent, and more preferably at least about 20 percent. In particular embodiments of the invention, the administration of 8-isoPGE₁ or 8-isoPGE₂, or a derivative thereof results in an increase in trabecular outflow facility of at least about 10 percent, preferably at least about 20 percent, and more preferably at least about 30 percent. In nonlimiting embodiments of the invention, a topical preparation of 8-isoPGE₁ or 8-isoPGE₂ at a concentration of between .001 and 1 percent, preferably between .005 and .2 percent, and more preferably between about .05 and .1 percent, or equivalent amounts of an 8-isoPGE₁ or 8-isoPGE₂ derivative (equivalency based on the ability to promote trabecular outflow) may be used.

According to the invention, IOP may be decreased, and/or glaucoma may be treated, using compositions comprising 8-isoPGE₁ or 8-isoPGE₂, or a derivative thereof, as the sole active agent, or in conjunction with another active agent. For example, combinations of 8-isoPGE₁ or 8-isoPGE₂, or a derivative thereof, and another drug used to treat elevated intraocular pressure, including but not limited to another prostaglandin derivative (including, but not limited to, latanoprost), pilocarpine, epinephrine, a beta adrenergic agent (e.g., timolol), a carbonic anhydrase inhibitor (e.g., dorzolamide), or an alpha₂-adrenergic receptor agonist (e.g., a clonidine derivative), may be used.

EXAMPLE

Experiments were performed to evaluate the effects of single dose administration of 8-isoPGE₂ on IOP in normal ("N") and glaucomatous ("G") monkey eyes, and to determine the mechanism by which 8-isoPGE₂ alters IOP in N monkey eyes, when applied topically. A single 25 μ l dose study was performed in 6 N and 8 G monkeys. IOP and pupil sizes were measured before and at 0 hr, 0.5 hr and then hourly for a total of 6 hrs after 0.05% or 0.1% drug concentrations were administered. Tonographic outflow facility ("O") and fluorophotometric aqueous humor flow (F) were determined in 6 N monkeys before and after unilateral application of 25 μ l of 0.1% 8-isoPGE₂. In 8 G monkey eyes, 8-isoPGE₂ reduced IOP ($p<0.005$) up to 2 hrs or 5 hrs following administration of the 0.05% or 0.1% concentration, respectively. The maximum reduction in IOP was 4.6 ± 0.8 (mean \pm SEM)mmMg (0.05%) and 6.6 ± 0.8 mmHg (0.1%), as compared to baseline measurements. After topical application of 8-isoPGE₂, the IOP was lower ($p<0.01$) in the treated eyes of 6 N monkeys for 4 hrs, with a maximum difference of 3.2 ± 0.2 mmHg, as compared to the fellow contralateral control eyes. The pupil size was smaller ($p<0.01$) for 4 hrs, up to 1.0 ± 0.2 mm. Compared with vehicle-treated contralateral control eyes, O was greater ($p<0.005$) by 48% at 2 hr after a single dose of 0.1% 8-isoPGE₂. F was unexchanged ($p<0.10$) over a period of 4 hrs after drug administration. Mild eyelid edema, conjunctival edema, hypermia, and discharge appeared in some eyes treated with the 0.1% concentration.

Table 1A shows that 8-isoPGE₂ administered to the normal monkey eye lowers IOP significantly by 20.3% and increases outflow facility by 43.1%, an amount sufficient to

account for the fall of IOP. By contrast, in Table 1B latanoprost in the normal monkey eye also lowers IOP significantly (by 10.8%), but the drug has no significant effect on outflow facility. The lack of a major effect on outflow facility of latanoprost in the primate eye is in agreement with studies in the literature by other investigators.

Table 1

A. Effect of 0.1% 8-isoPGE₂ on Outflow Facility in 6 Normal Monkeys

(2 hours after treatment)

	Intraocular Pressure	Outflow Facility
	Mean±SEM	Mean±SEM
	mmHg	µl/ml/mmHg
Treated eyes (drug)	13.0±0.7*	0.83±0.10*
Baseline	16.3±1.1	0.58±0.03
Control eyes (vehicle)	15.7±0.5	0.56±0.06
Baseline**	15.7±0.6	0.51±0.04

B. Effect of 0.005% latanoprost on Outflow Facility in 6 Normal Monkeys

(1 hour after treatment)

	Intraocular Pressure	Outflow Facility
	Mean±SEM	Mean±SEM
	mmHg	µl/min/mmHg
Treated eyes (drug)	13.2±0.7*	0.76±0.08
Baseline	14.8±0.7	0.62±0.07
Control eyes (vehicle)	15.0±0.8	0.60±0.07
Baseline**	15.7±0.3	0.73±0.08

*Significantly different as compared with either baseline values or vehicle-treated eyes (two-tailed paired t-test, p.<0.05.

** Baseline measurements made in the same monkeys at the same time one day prior to drug treatments

Table 2 shows the effect of 8-isoPGE₂ on IOP and outflow facility in glaucomatous monkey eyes. Because of the individual variability in laser-induced glaucomatous monkey eyes, the IOP and facility measurements are expressed in the table as ratios (value of the drug-treated eye ÷ the value of the vehicle-treated eye). The ratios were calculated from the values of the same glaucomatous monkey eye determined immediately prior to administration of the drug or the vehicle (time 0 hrs.), and the values at 2 hours after administration of the drug or vehicle. The data in Table 2 show that in the primate, administration of 8-isoPGE₂ to glaucomatous eyes significantly lowers IOP (by 13.8%) and significantly increases outflow facility (by 38.8%), which is of sufficient magnitude to account for the fall in IOP. Thus the mechanism of lowering IOP by 8-isoPGE₂ in both normal and glaucomatous eyes is primarily due to an increase in aqueous humor trabecular outflow.

Table 2

Effect of 0.1% 8-iPGE₂ on IOP and Outflow Facility Responses
in 8 Glaucomatous Monkey Eyes (Unilateral)

	Intraocular Pressure (drug-treated/vehicle-treated)		Outflow Facility (drug-treated/vehicle treated)	
Time	0 hr	2 hr	0 hr	2 hr
response ratio	0.976	0.843*	1.041	1.445**
	±0.0992+	±0.0498	±0.154	±0.161
%change by drug	—	13.8% decrease	—	38.8% increase

Significantly different as compared to 0 hr, paired t-test, p<0.01*, <0.10**

Various publications are cited herein, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

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